Case 2:14-cv-05802-WY Document 1 Filed 10/14/14 Page 1 of 12

JS 44 (Rev. 12/12)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS Hall, Paul				DEFENDANTS Allied Construction Services, Inc.			
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES) (c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Bowman & Partners, LLP 1905 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 215.391.4300				County of Residence NOTE: IN LAND CO THE TRACT Attorneys (If Known)	(IN U.S. P	LAINTIFF CASES O	
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in C	One Box Only)	III. CI	TIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPA	L PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff
☐ I U,S, Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government)	Not a Party)			FF DEF	Incorporated or Pri	
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizensh	iip of Parties in Item III)	Citize	en of Another State	2 🗇 2	Incorporated and P of Business In A	
			Citizen or Subject of a 3 3 Foreign Nation 3 6 6 6 Foreign Country				
IV. NATURE OF SUIT			I IV			TZBYINEOV	OWNED ON A MEMORY
CONTRACT ☐ 110 Insurance ☐ 120 Marine ☐ 130 Miller Act ☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument ☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment	PERSONAL INJURY 310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle 355 Motor Vehicle 70 Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury 462 Personal Injury Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS 440 Other Civil Rights 441 Voting 442 Employment 443 Housing/ Accommodations 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other 448 Education	PERSONAL INJURY 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability Pharmaceutical Personal Injury - Product Liability Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPER 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage 785 Property Damage 785 Property Damage 786 Asbestos Personal Property Damage 787 Other Fraud 787 Other Personal Property Damage 788 Other Personal 789 Property Damage 780 Other Personal 780 Other Personal 780 Other Personal 780 Other Personal 781 Other Personal 781 Other Personal 782 Other Personal 783 Other Personal 783 Other Personal 784 Other Personal 785 Other Personal 78	TY	DRFEITURE/PENALTY 5 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 0 Other Description of Property 21 USC 881 Other Labor Standards Act Labor/Management Relations O Railway Labor Act Family and Medical Leave Act Other Labor Litigation Employee Retirement Income Security Act IMMIGRATION Naturalization Application Other Immigration Other Immigration Actions	422 Appe 423 With 28 U PROPE 820 Copy 830 Pater 840 Trade 861 HIA 862 Black 863 DlW 864 SSID 865 RSI (FEDERA 870 Taxe or D 871 IRS—26 U	RTY RIGHTS rights tt emark SECURITY (1395ff) k Lung (923) C/DIWW (405(g)) D Title XVI (405(g)) AL TAX SUITS s (U.S. Plaintiff efendant)	OTHER STATUTES □ 375 False Claims Act □ 400 State Reapportionment □ 410 Antitrust □ 430 Banks and Banking □ 450 Commerce □ 460 Deportation □ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations □ 480 Consumer Credit □ 490 Cable/Sat TV □ 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange □ 890 Other Statutory Actions □ 891 Agricultural Acts □ 893 Environmental Matters □ 895 Freedom of Information Act □ 896 Arbitration □ 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision □ 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
🕱 1 Original 🗇 2 Rer	cite the U.S. Civil Star 42 U.S.C. 8 2000	Appellate Court stute under which you are e, et seq. suse:	J 4 Reins Reop		r District	☐ 6 Multidistr Litigation	ict
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:		IS A CLASS ACTION	D	EMAND \$		HECK YES only URY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint:
VIII. RELATED CASE IF ANY	(See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKE	T NUMBER	
DATE 09/05/2014		SIGNATURE OF ATT	ORNEY C	E RECORD			
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY RECEIPT # AM	10UNT	APPLYING IFP		NDGE		MAGERET	OGE.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

PAUL HALL	:
6412 Clearview Street	:
Philadelphia PA 19119	:
	:
Plaintiff,	:
	: CIVIL ACTION NO.
\mathbf{v}_{\bullet}	:
	:
ALLIED CONSTRUCTION	:
SERVICES, INC.	:
240 New York Drive, Suite 1	:
Fort Washington, PA 19034	:
	:
Defendant.	

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, Paul Hall, by and through his undersigned counsel, files this Complaint and hereby avers as follows:

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This is a civil action seeking compensatory, punitive and non-pecuniary damages based on race discrimination and harassment in violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e, et seq. ("Title VII").

II. PARTIES

- 2. Plaintiff, Paul Hall (hereinafter referred to as "Plaintiff"), is a male African-American adult individual who resides at 6412 Clearview Street, Philadelphia, PA 19119.
 - 3. Plaintiff is an employee of Allied Construction Services, Inc.
- 4. Upon information and belief, Defendant, Allied Construction Services, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as "Defendant"), is a Pennsylvania corporation with its business headquarters located at 240 New York Drive, Suite 1, Fort Washington, PA 19034.

III. JURISDICTION

- 5. This court has original jurisdiction of all civil actions arising under the Constitution, law, or treatises of the United States pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1391
- 6. This action has been instituted within ninety (90) days of Plaintiff's receipt of the July 16, 2014 Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's (EEOC) Dismissal Notice and Right to Sue Letters regarding his timely-filed charges of employment discrimination and harassment against Defendant which are attached hereto as Exhibit A. (See Exhibit A).

IV. VENUE

7. Venue if properly laid in the Eastern Disctrict of Pennsylvania pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b) because Defendant is located in and regularly conducts business in this judicial district, and because the overwhelmingly majority of relevant facts took place in this judicial district.

V. FACTS AND AVERMENTS GIVING RISE TO THE ACTION

- 8. Plaintiff became an employee of Defendant in August 2012.
- 9. Plaintiff is employed as a Laborer by Defendant.
- 10. Defendant hired an individual, Mr. Staab, race, white, although he had a history of racism and discrimination in the workplace.
- 11. On or about May 9, 2013 Plaintiff was working at Defendant's headquarters loading a truck with equipment to be used at another job site.
- 12. On or about May 9, 2013, after initially loading the truck with necessary equipment, Plaintiff entered Defendant's facilities to obtain a drink of water.
- 13. On or about May 9, 2013, Plaintiff returned to the truck where he saw

 Defendant's employee, Jim Staab, race, white, attempting to tie down the equipment with straps.

- 14. As the Plaintiff approached the truck and waited for Mr. Staab to hand him a strap to tie down part of the equipment, Mr. Staab picked up a rope from his truck in the form of a hangman's noose and placed it around Plaintiff's neck.
- 15. Placing the noose around Plaintiff's neck, Mr. Staab commented and asked Plaintiff, "What do you think about that?"
- 16. At no time relevant to this matter was the use of a hangman's noose necessary to secure the equipment on the truck.
- 17. At no time should a hangman's noose be used to secure such equipment on a truck.
- 18. Mr. Staab then made comments to Plaintiff and his African American colleague, Salahudin Thompson, asking "why do you blacks always get upset over a noose?" and "it's only a rope."
- 19. Further, Mr. Staab had been pulled over by police previously for having such a hangman's noose hanging on his truck.
- 20. At no time relevant to this matter did Defendant take the appropriate steps to prevent such unlawful harassment and discrimination.
- 21. At no time relevant to this matter has Defendant taken any action towards Mr. Staab for his racist behavior and harassment or to correct Mr. Staab's harassment.

COUNT I

TITLE VII- RACE DISCRIMINATION

- 22. Plaintiff incorporates paragraphs 1-21 as if fully set forth herein.
- 23. Title VII of the Civil Rights Act or 1964, the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, and the regulations promulgated thereafter make it an unlawful employment practice for an

employer to discriminate against an individual with respect to the terms and conditions or privileges of employment on the basis of race.

- 24. Defendant is an employer within the meaning of the above-referenced statutes.
- 25. Defendants intentionally discriminated against Plaintiff through their conduct, which includes, but is not limited to, the above-described.
 - 26. Plaintiff is a member of a protected class as he is an African American
- 27. Defendant's employee harassed Plaintiff because of his status as an African American and subjected Plaintiff to unlawful discrimination.
 - 28. Plaintiff was treated differently and less favorably than white employees.
- 29. Such harassment and discrimination was unwelcomed by and offensive to Plaintiff.
- 30. The harassment was severe and pervasive because of the intensely offensive and inconsiderate nature of Mr. Staab's conduct with regard to the noose.
- 31. At no time relevant to this matter did Defendant take the appropriate steps to prevent such unlawful harassment and discrimination.
- 32. At no time relevant to this matter has Defendant taken any action towards Mr. Staab for his racist behavior and harassment or to correct Mr. Staab's harassment.
- 33. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant and their employee's discriminatory conduct, Plaintiff has suffered emotional injuries, including, but not mimited to, past and present pain and suffering, anxiety and humiliation.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Paul Hall, by and through his undersigned counsel demands judgment in his favor and against Defendant and an award of the following:

a. Compensatory damages, consequential damages and punitive damages;

- b. Non-pecuniary damages, including emotional pain and suffering, inconvenience, mental anguish, loss of enjoyment of life, and humiliation;
- c. Attorney's fees and costs; and
- d. Any other relief this Honorable Court deems appropriate under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff Paul Hall hereby demands trial by jury.

BOWMAN & PARTNERS, LLP

Dated: September 5, 2014

By: /s/Michael A. Bowman
MICHAEL A. BOWMAN
PA Identification No.: 81762
1905 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-391-4300 phone
215-391-4350 facsimile

Exhibit

A

EEOC Form 161-B (11/09)

U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO SUE (ISSUED ON REQUEST)

To: Paul Hall 6412 Clearview Street Philadelphia, PA 19119	801 Suit	adelphia District Office Market Street e 1300 adelphia, PA 19107	
On behalf of person(s) CONFIDENTIAL (29 CI	aggrieved whose identity is FR §1601.7(a))		
EEOC Charge No.	EEOC Representative	Telephone No.	
475 2042 64460	Legal Unit	(215) 440-2828	
17F-2013-61169		dditional information enclosed with this form.)	
Act (GINA): This is your Notice of	1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), or the Right to Sue, issued under Title VII, the ADA or GINA bas lawsuit under Title VII, the ADA or GINA must be filed in your right to sue based on this charge will be lost. (The tire	a federal or state court WITHIN 90 DAYS	
X More than 180 days	have passed since the filing of this charge.		
Less than 180 days be able to complete	have passed since the filing of this charge, but I have det its administrative processing within 180 days from the filir	ermined that it is unlikely that the EEOC will ng of this charge.	
X The EEOC is termin	The EEOC is terminating its processing of this charge.		

Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA): You may sue under the ADEA at any time from 60 days after the charge was filed until 90 days after you receive notice that we have completed action on the charge. In this regard, the paragraph marked below applies to your case:

The EEOC is closing your case. Therefore, your lawsuit under the ADEA must be filed in federal or state court <u>WITHIN</u> <u>90 DAYS</u> of your receipt of this Notice. Otherwise, your right to sue based on the above-numbered charge will be lost.

The EEOC is continuing its handling of your ADEA case. However, if 60 days have passed since the filing of the charge, you may file suit in federal or state court under the ADEA at this time.

Equal Pay Act (EPA): You already have the right to sue under the EPA (filing an EEOC charge is not required.) EPA suits must be brought in federal or state court within 2 years (3 years for willful violations) of the alleged EPA underpayment. This means that backpay due for any violations that occurred more than 2 years (3 years) before you file suit may not be collectible.

If you file suit, based on this charge, please send a copy of your court complaint to this office.

The EEOC will continue to process this charge.

Enclosures(s)

cc:

Spencer H. Lewis, Jr., District Director

ALLIED CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

Jordan D. Cunningham, Esq. Cunningham and Chernicoff, P.C 2320 North Second Street Harrisburg, PA 17110 Michael A. Bowman Esq. BOWMAN & PARTNERS, LLP 1600 Market St., 25th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19103

Case 2:14-cv-05802-WY Document 1 Filed 10/14/14 Page 9 of 12 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA — DESIGNATION FORM to be used by counsel to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to appropriate calendar.

assignment to appropriate carendar.	
Address of Plaintiff: 6412 Clearview Street, Philadelph	nia, PA 19119
Address of Defendant: 240 New York Drive, Suite 1, For	t Washington, PA 19034
Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction: Pennsylvania	
(Use Reverse Side For A	dditional Space)
Does this civil action involve a nongovernmental corporate party with any parent corporation as	
(Attach two copies of the Disclosure Statement Form in accordance with Fed.R.Civ.P. 7.1(a))	Yes□ No □
Does this case involve multidistrict litigation possibilities?	Yes□ No 🔀
RELATED CASE, IF ANY: Case Number: Judge	Date Terminated:
Civil cases are deemed related when yes is answered to any of the following questions:	
1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or within one ye	ar previously terminated action in this court?
	Yes□ No 亞
Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior s action in this court?	uit pending or within one year previously terminated
action in the court.	Yes□ No 🗷
3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier n	
terminated action in this court?	Yes□ No 🗗
4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se civil right	s case filed by the same individual?
	Yes□ No⊠
	103
CIVIL: (Place in one category only)	
A. Federal Question Cases:	B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases:
1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other Contracts	1. □ Insurance Contract and Other Contracts
2. □ FELA	2. □ Airplane Personal Injury
3. □ Jones Act-Personal Injury	3. □ Assault, Defamation
4. □ Antitrust	4. □ Marine Personal Injury
5. □ Patent	5. □ Motor Vehicle Personal Injury
6. □ Labor-Management Relations	6. Other Personal Injury (Please specify)
7. Civil Rights	7. Products Liability
8. Habeas Corpus	•
•	8. Products Liability — Asbestos
9. □ Securities Act(s) Cases	9. □ All other Diversity Cases
10. □ Social Security Review Cases	(Please specify)
11. □ All other Federal Question Cases (Please specify)	
ARBITRATION CERTI	
I, Michael A. Bowman , counsel of record do hereby certify	iegory) I:
☐ Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, Section 3(c)(2), that to the best of my knowledge and be	
\$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs;	
□ Relief other than monetary damages is sought.	and the same
DATE: 09/05/2014	81762
Attorney-at-Law	Attorney I.D.#
NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if ther	e has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.
I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is not related to any case now pending or v	vithin one year previously terminated action in this court
except as noted above.	
DATE: 00/05/2014	01.750
DATE: 09/05/2014 Attorney-at-Law	81762 Attorney I.D.#
	A ALLOCATION A ALLOCATION

CIV. 609 (5/2012)

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

Paul Hall		:	CIVIL AC	ΓΙΟΝ
v.		**		
Allied Construction	Services,	Inc.	NO.	
plaintiff shall complete a Ca filing the complaint and serv side of this form.) In the designation, that defendant	ase Managemove a copy on all event that a dishall, with its ortion, a Case N	ent Track Desi l defendants. (lefendant does first appearan Management T	y Reduction Plan of this cougnation Form in all civil case. See § 1:03 of the plan set forth not agree with the plaintiff ce, submit to the clerk of courrack Designation Form specigned.	s at the time of on the reverse regarding said at and serve on
SELECT ONE OF THE F	OLLOWING	CASE MAN	AGEMENT TRACKS:	
(a) Habeas Corpus – Cases	brought unde	r 28 U.S.C. §	2241 through § 2255.	()
(b) Social Security – Cases requesting review of a decision of the Secretary of Health and Human Services denying plaintiff Social Security Benefits.				n ()
(c) Arbitration – Cases required to be designated for arbitration under Local Civil Rule 53.2. (ale 53.2. ()
(d) Asbestos – Cases involving claims for personal injury or property damage from exposure to asbestos.				()
	s complex and	that need spe	acks (a) through (d) that are cial or intense management by ed explanation of special	y ()
(f) Standard Management -	- Cases that do	not fall into	any one of the other tracks.	(X)
09/05/2014	Michael	A. Bowman	Plaintiff	
Date	Attorne	ey-at-law	Attorney for	
215.391.4300	215.391	.4350	mbowman@bowma	anltd.com
Telephone	FAX N	umber	E-Mail Addres	s

(Civ. 660) 10/02

APPENDIX G

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

Paul Hall					
	V.		1 1	Civil Action No:	
Allied Constr	uctio	n Services, Inc	• :		
		DISCLOSU	RE STATEM	ENT FORM	
Please che	ck one	box:			
٥	, in t	The nongovernmental corporate party,, in the above listed civil action does not have any parent corporation and publicly held corporation that owns 10% or more of its stock.			
	, in t	The nongovernmental corporate party,, in the above listed civil action has the following parent corporation(s) and publicly held corporation(s) that owns 10% or more of its stock:			
	_				
09/05/20)14		M	MUZZ	
Date	9			Signature	
		Counsel fo	r: <u>Plaint</u>	iff	
Federal Ru	ule of C	Civil Procedure 7.1	Disclosure	Statement	
(a)	Wнс	Must File; Conten	тs. A nong	overnmental corporate party must file	
	(1)	copies of a disclosur identifies any pare owning10% or mo	ent corporati	on and any publicly held corporation	
	(2)	states that there is	s no such co	prporation.	
(b) T	IME TO	FILE; SUPPLEMENTAL	FILING A	party must:	
(5)	(1)	file the disclosure	statement v	with its first appearance, pleading, other request addressed to the court;	
	(2)	promptly file a sup	plemental s	tatement if any required information	

changes.

UNITED STATE DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

USA	:	Criminal Action
v.		
v .	•	
	(3)	
	*	No.

	: No.			
	DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FORM			
Please ch	eck one box:			
	The nongovernmental corporate party,, in the above listed criminal action does not have any parent corporation a publicly held corporation that owns 10% or more of its stock.			
۵	The nongovernmental corporate party,, in the above listed criminal action has the following parent corporation(s) and publicly held corporation(s) that owns 10% or more of its stock:			
09/05/2 Date	014 Signature			
	Counsel for: Plaintiff			
Federal Ru (a)	ile of Criminal Procedure 12.4 Disclosure Statement WHO MUST FILE.			
()	(1) NONGOVERNMENTAL CORPORATE PARTY. Any nongovernmental corporate party to a proceeding in a district court must file a statement that identifies any parent corporation and any publicly held corporation that owns 10% or more of its stock or states that there is no such corporation.			
	(2) ORGANIZATIONAL VICTIM. If an organization is a victim of the alleged criminal activity, the government must file a statement identifying the victim. If the organizational victim is a corporation, the statement must also disclose the information required by Rule 12.4(a)(1) to the extent that it can be obtained through due diligence.			
(b)	TIME FOR FILING; SUPPLEMENTAL FILING. A party must: (1) file the Rule 12.4(a) statement upon the defendant's initial appearance; and			

(2) promptly file a supplemental statement upon any change in the information that the statement requires.